GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5741
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
FUNCTIONING OF MES
GADDE RAMAMOHAN

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not handing over of MES to the existing Civilian manpower as recommended in Para 50.103& 50.106 of Vth Central Pay Commission Report; and

(b) whether Army Headquarters had assessed in 1998 that cost of employment of combatant is almost twice of its civilian counterpart; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not accepting the recommendation made in Para 33.15 of Vth Central Pay Commission regarding withdrawal of service personnel from MES?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): The Military Engineering Service is an Inter-Service Organisationhaving a judicious mix of civil and Army personnel to avail expertise of both Army and civilian nature of functions. Under the Government Notification issued under the Army Act, the Engineer-in-Chief is the head of the Military Engineering Service. Orders for gradual civilianisationof Military Engineering Service in conformity with the recommendation made in Para 50.106 and 33.15 of the Central Pay Commission have been issued.No decision for withdrawal of Service personnel from Military Engineering Service has been taken.